

# Eddy County News Letter

December 2021  
Issue #15

## Contents

- Message from our Leadership
- Updates & News
- Employee Spotlight
- Eddy County in the Community

## December Highlights

- 1<sup>st</sup>- National Pie Day
- 2<sup>nd</sup>- Special Education Day
- 3<sup>rd</sup>- Faux Fur Friday
- 4<sup>th</sup>- National Cookie Day
- 5<sup>th</sup>- International Ninja Day
- 6<sup>th</sup>- National Miner's Day
- 7<sup>th</sup>- Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 8<sup>th</sup>- National Brownie Day
- 9<sup>th</sup>- Christmas Card Day
- 10<sup>th</sup>- National Lager Day
- 11<sup>th</sup>- National App Day
- 12<sup>th</sup>- Gingerbread House Day
- 13<sup>th</sup>- Happy Birthday National Guard!
- 14<sup>th</sup>- National Bouillabaisse Day
- 15<sup>th</sup>- Cat Herders Day
- 16<sup>th</sup>- Chocolate Covered Anything Day
- 17<sup>th</sup>- Ugly Christmas Sweater Day
- 18<sup>th</sup>- National Twin Day
- 19<sup>th</sup>- Oatmeal Muffin Day
- 20<sup>th</sup>- National Sangria Day
- 21<sup>st</sup>- National Humbug Day
- 22<sup>nd</sup>- Forefathers Day
- 23<sup>rd</sup>- National Roots Day
- 24<sup>th</sup>- National Eggnog Day
- 25<sup>th</sup>- Merry Christmas!
- 26<sup>th</sup>- National Candy Cane Day
- 27<sup>th</sup>- National Fruitcake Day
- 28<sup>th</sup>- Pledge of Allegiance Day
- 29<sup>th</sup>- National Pepper Pot Day
- 30<sup>th</sup>- National Bacon Day
- 31<sup>st</sup>- National Champagne Day



## MESSAGE FROM EDDY COUNTY LEADERSHIP...

All to soon, the year-end holidays are upon us. I hope that everyone had some time off and an enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday in whatever form that may have taken for you and your family. Traditionally, Thanksgiving has been a time for reflection on the bounties and blessings that we have, and to perhaps give thanks for those qualities in our lives. It's my opinion, that we, as a County family have much to be grateful and thankful for. We live and work in a great community, our family of County employees are an exceptional group of co-workers, and I think that we do a very good job of carrying out our respective roles to provide an excellent and valuable service to our customers, the citizens of Eddy County. So, I'm grateful for each of you, and what you contribute and accomplish in your job, that makes us all successful.

As we look toward the Christmas season and holidays, perspectives often shift to those who may have needs greater than our own. Those who may be less fortunate, or those who have experienced some difficulties over the past year. I hope we reach out to those in need, and share a bit of the bounty and blessings that we're grateful for, in order to help lift and strengthen those less fortunate. Often, those small acts of kindness and quiet generousities are the most gratifying efforts that we can do, especially at this time of year.

This time of year, is also a time when we take some time off from work to do some traveling, be with family, or to simply recharge after a busy year. Whatever the reason, I hope that each of you have that opportunity to celebrate the holidays in your own way.

Then, the New Year arrives bringing new opportunities, new beginnings, and new resolutions. From a County business perspective, this represents our fiscal mid-year. And from a business perspective, we're doing very well thanks to your consistent efforts and excellent service. Thank you for all that you do in contributing to our overall success.

To close this note out, I would like to wish all of you the best during this holiday season. I would like to reiterate that your efforts, actions, and accomplishments are very much appreciated by myself and the County Commission. I would like to impress upon you to take care of yourselves and your loved ones; knowing that your choices affect not just your well-being, but also the well-being of your loved ones and your co-workers. We need each and every one of you healthy and happy, fulfilling your job responsibilities day in and day out.

Happy Holidays to each of you, and wishing you all the best in the New Year...

Eddy County Manager,  
Allen Davis



- TransAero Medevac Offers Free Memberships to County Residents
- Holiday Hours

# Updates & News

---

## TRANS AERO MEDEVAC MEMBERSHIPS TO EDDY COUNTY RESIDENTS



TransAero Medevac announces that residents of Eddy County are automatically enrolled in Trans Aero Medevac Membership program!

Provided in collaboration with the city of Artesia, a Trans Aero MedEvac membership ensures that residents will not have to pay any portion of a transportation bill, should a flight be necessary. This will only apply to flights operated by Trans Aero MedEvac and will be subject to certain state rules.

The company, which currently has two helicopters based in Eddy County, was founded with a mission to deliver the most advanced patient care in the industry. Consistent with its goal of quality, all aircraft are staffed with an Advanced Practice Provider, as well as a Certified Paramedic. They also carry lifesaving whole blood and liquid plasma, as well as specialized equipment, such as ultrasound and ventilators, to deliver appropriate critical care to all patients.

Trans Aero MedEvac will be working with local community leadership, hospitals, and fire departments to rapidly spread the message that each citizen of Eddy County now has this benefit, free of charge. Information will also be sent out to residents, outlining the advantages they will receive from a membership.

Charlie Nolen, Assistant Program Director, said of the announcement: "Trans Aero MedEvac is proud to serve the region with the highest level of critical care, and, through this partnership with the City of Artesia, to alleviate the stress typically associated with a post-flight medical bill."

Trans Aero MedEvac is an air medical transport company formed in the principals of excellence in aviation safety and clinical medicine. In business since 1966, Trans Aero LTD primarily focused on heli-firefighting activities, as well as contracted helicopter services and maintenance. In 2016, they joined forces with EMSRx, a company known for clinical excellence and support services, to bring a quality focus back to air medicine.

---

*The Eddy County Administrative Offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, December 23-24, 2021, in observance of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, and Thursday and Friday, December 30-31, 2021, in observance of New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.*



*Sheriff's Deputies will remain on duty and a Road Department crew will be on call.*

# Employee Spotlight

## Eddy County Service Awards

- Gay West, Administration- 18 years and 9 months
- Lenin Leos- 15 years
- Teodoro Sandoval, Sheriff's Office- 10 years
- Eric Threlkeld, Sheriff's Office- 10 years
- Guadalupe Mendoza, Public Works- 5 years



### This month's employee spotlight is Gay West

Gay began her career with Eddy County in April of 2003, as Deputy Assessor and was promoted to Data Analyst in the Assessor's Office. In 2006, she was selected for her role as the Executive Administrative Assistant to the County Manager and the Board of County Commissioners. For the next fifteen years, Gay would accumulate a wealth of experience and knowledge regarding County operations, practices, programs, ordinances, and administration of County business.

Gay has worked with multiple County Managers and many County Commissioners. She has been a catalyst in providing consistency and continuity through these various boards and management. She's seen changes, growth, and improvement through her tenure with the County while making significant contributions. Gay has accomplished all of this with an ever-present smile, a willingness to always help, and a dedication to the employees and citizens of the County.

Some of Gay's favorite things about working for Eddy County has been the people she has worked with and for, and the diversity of the job. She has learned so much from so many employees and truly believes Eddy County's greatest assets are the employees.

"It's bittersweet that this recognition and employee spotlight serves as an announcement of Gay's decision to retire at the end of the year", said Eddy County Manager, Allen Davis. "Unfortunately for us, and I'm sure good for Gay, with her accrued time her last day in the office will be the first week of December. I know she has plenty of plans and ideas about how to spend her retirement time, and we absolutely wish her all the best in her next adventure. She will be missed by many and, I know, appreciated by all."

When asked what her plans were for retirement, she responded, "I will NOT live by the alarm clock! I want to travel with my husband, family and friends. I also want to learn to play pickle ball! I might drag out my dusty golf clubs (actually, they are my Husband's old clubs) and give it a go as well. Most importantly- I will continue to serve my Lord and Savior!"

Eddy County wishes you all the best on your retirement, Gay!

If you've experienced an Eddy County employee or department that has gone above and beyond to serve you, we want to know! Email your experience to [jstrong@co.eddy.nm.us](mailto:jstrong@co.eddy.nm.us)



# Eddy County in the Community

Eddy County  
101 W. Greene Street  
Carlsbad, NM 88220  
575-887-9511  
EddyCounty.org

## COMMISSIONERS

Steven McCutcheon, Chairman  
District 4

Fred F. Beard, Vice Chairman  
District 3

Ernie Carlson, Member  
District 1

Jonathan A. Henry, Member  
District 2

Sarah Cordova, Member  
District 5

## COUNTY MANAGER

Allen Davis

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

Gemma Ferguson  
Assessor

Darlene Rosprim  
Clerk

Jay L. Francis  
Probate Judge

Mark Cage  
Sheriff

Laurie Pruitt  
Treasurer

## Eddy County DWI Program Congratulates Two State of NM MADD Hero Award Recipients from Artesia.

The 2021 Community Champion Award was awarded to Diana and Danny Harvey.

Diana and Danny Harvey's son, Corporal D. Robert Harvey, was on duty protecting the Lubbock, Texas community when his patrol car was hit head-on by a drunk driver and he was killed. In an effort to prevent DWI, almost immediately, the Harvey's began sharing their story.

The Harvey's DWI prevention efforts include speaking at the Fallen Officer Memorial, the MADD sponsored Law Enforcement Training, the Minors Possessing Alcohol Corrective Thinking (MPACT) Program, and at the monthly Driving While Impaired Supplemental Education (DWISE) Victim Impact Panel.

The Harvey's recall their son's life and remind participants of their son's final moments and days. Love prompts them to turn their anger and grief into action and give voice to their son who can't speak for himself anymore. He was not just a number, but a living human being who had a life story. This DWI crash fatality has a deep and devastating impact on the family and left an indelible mark on the Eddy County community. Prevention is the most effective way to stop DWI. Diana and Danny Harvey work diligently to save lives and prevent DWI in New Mexico.

Diana and Danny Harvey



Mike Smith and wife, Joy



The 2021 News Reporter of the Year was awarded to Mike Smith Carlsbad Current Argus Reporter, Mike Smith, formerly a broadcaster on Artesia Radio, has regularly reported information to the public about DWI, underage drinking, and the Eddy County DWI Program for more than 20 years. His effective and accurate reporting contributes to, builds interest in, and helps shape the public perception about DWI.

Mike Smith, continues to make these issues a top reporting priority. Through his reporting he emphasizes how critical DWI Prevention is. Journalism effects our belief systems, behavior patterns, and actions. His reporting engages the public as stakeholders in DWI Prevention. His work is essential to public safety. Through his reporting Mike Smith helps makes Eddy County a better, safer place in which we drive, live, work, and visit.

In addition to his objective reporting, Reporter Mike Smith is a member of the Eddy County DWI Advisory Council. His commitment is evident not only in his news articles but that he also takes the time out of his busy schedule to attend the DWI Advisory Council meetings and report on the happenings of the Eddy County DWI Program.

